



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Legacy
Management

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2018 Long-Term Stewardship Conference

Closure for Seventh Generation Report 2017 Edition

State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWWG)

Peter C. Chestnut, Committee Co-Chair

STGWWG's Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) Committee

STGWG Membership and Committees

Federal, state and tribal government representatives meet together to protect the environment, human health and cultural resources for present and future generations

STGWG's LTS Committee:

- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Kentucky
- Missouri
- Oregon
- Pueblo de San Ildefonso
- Washington
- Yakama Nation



Overview of 2017 Edition

- Progress since 1999
- Overview of site summaries
- Findings and Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Appendices including chronology of DOE actions and 15 site surveys

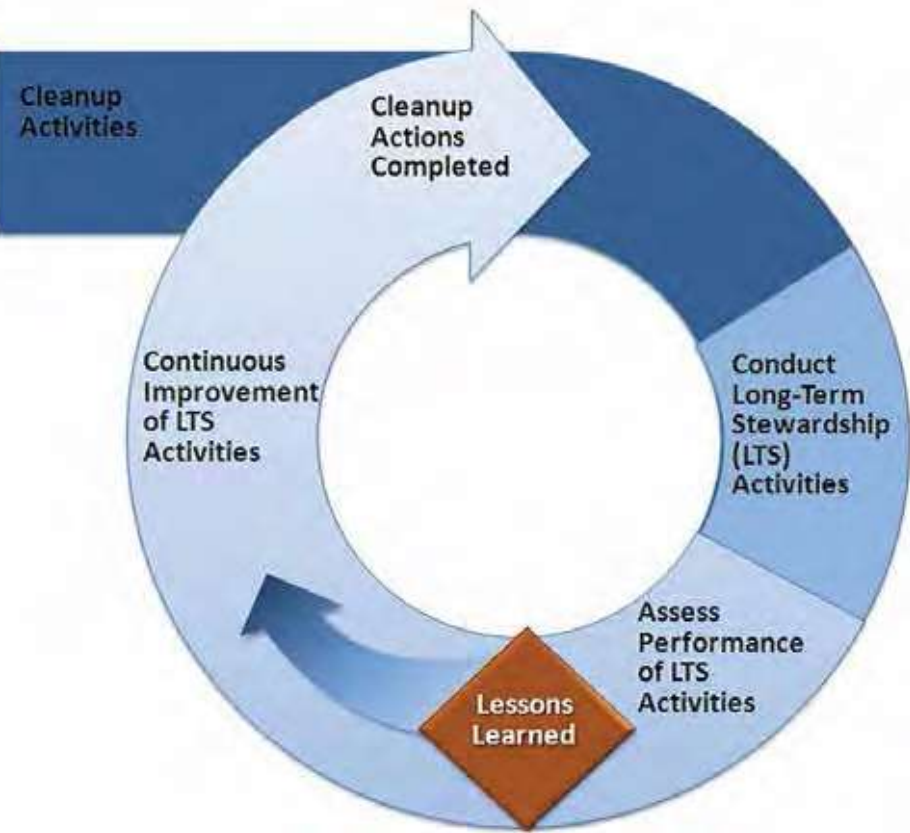
Report link:

www.ncsl.org/STGWG-LTS



Closure for the Seventh Generation

A report from the State and Tribal Government Working Group's
Long-Term Stewardship Committee | **2017 Edition**
Stewardship of the U.S. Department of Energy Nuclear Weapons Complex and Legacy Waste Sites



Courtesy of DOE

Stewardship Defined

As “All activities necessary to ensure protection of natural, cultural, and historical resources, the health of [humans], and the environment following completion of remediation, disposal, or stabilization of a site or a portion of site.” (1999 report)

STGWG Tribes and States are engaging with DOE of differing perspectives on defining stewardship.

One Tribe's Definition of LTS:

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) developed the following definition:

All activities necessary to ensure protection of natural, cultural, and historical resources, the health of [humans], and the environment following completion of remediation, disposal, or stabilization of a site or a portion of site. Long-term stewardship includes all engineered and institutional controls designed to contain or prevent exposures to residual contamination and waste, such as surveillance activities, record-keeping activities, inspections, resource monitoring, ongoing pump and treat activities, capital repair, maintenance of infrastructure, entombed buildings or facilities, maintenance of other barriers and containment structures, access control, and postings and maintaining signs.

National Academy of Sciences - Guidance

2000: Long-Term Institutional Management of U.S. DOE Legacy Waste Sites

- Accountability, transparency/visibility, feasibility, iteration
- Sites will require future oversight (engineered barriers, institutional controls, performance assessments, account for long-term needs, possible future remediation)

2003: Long-Term Stewardship of DOE Legacy Waste Sites: A Status Report

- Roles and tasks:
 - Guardian
 - Watchman
 - Land manager
 - Repairer
 - Archivist
 - Educator
 - Trustee of financial resources

Site Summaries

- 15 sites, including 10 from the 1999 report.
- The LTS Committee collaborated with DOE to ensure a diverse sampling of sites and explore lessons learned.
- Updated survey to understand the waste streams, site disposal options, cleanup decisions, and LTS planning and implementation.
- DOE officials provided initial responses to the survey.
- STGWG states and tribes reviewed and finalized surveys.



Weldon Spring Site

- 217-acre site:
 - On-site interpretive center
 - 41-acre disposal cell
 - 170-acre prairie restoration
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources – oversight and review
- Missouri share LTS experience and lessons learned with STGWG members.

EM Historical Cleanup Sites



Remaining Cleanup Sites



Courtesy of DOE

Findings and Conclusions

- The establishment of the DOE Office of Legacy Management is positive.
- Some DOE cleanup sites have nonexistent or undefined long-term stewardship plans.
- Tribes remain unable to use some cleanup sites for cultural, religious or ceremonial purposes, and impacted tribes have yet to be determined at some sites.
- Land use controls like disposal cells are not infallible.

Recommendations

Broad Areas of Focus:

- Long-Term Stewardship Planning Process
- Long-Term Stewardship Implementation
- Funding and Budget Process
- Tribal Issues and Engagement
- Public Education and Awareness



Long-Term Stewardship Planning Process and Implementation

- Support consistent policy and guidance across DOE.
 - 10 site elements outlined by DOE.
 - How programmatic offices and NNSA plan for LTS.
- Begin planning before cleanup is completed.
- Tribal treaty rights and fulfillment of DOE trust responsibility.



Funding and Budget Process

- Evaluate actual cost vs. predicted cost of LTS.
- Consider all costs related to LTS in selection of long-term remedies.
- Fund tribal programs.
- Consider state and tribal roles in LTS oversight and responsibilities.



Tribal Issues and Engagement

- Protect cultural resources.
- Educate DOE officials, contractors and stakeholders.
- Expand tribal access to sites.
- Improve outreach and determine relationships between tribes and sites not actively engaged.



Public Education and Awareness

- Ensure information is preserved, communicated, and accessible.
- Establish or maintain system(s) for data collection and preservation.
- Support existing visitor centers and future public engagement.
- Work with states and tribes.



Los Alamos National Laboratory

- Four Accord Pueblos and the state of New Mexico
- EM, NNSA and LM
- 2,100 contaminated sites
- 54 waste disposal areas



Looking Forward

- Further analysis and understanding of costs and budgeting.
- Continue public engagement and outreach successes.
- Engage with states and Native American tribes.
- Apply lessons learned and best practices across DOE to promote consistency.



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